

SOUTH CAROLINA'S WOODS BAY STATE NATURAL AREA

Woods Bay State Natural Area offers a close-up look at one of the last remaining large Carolina Bays on the Atlantic Coastal Plain. Experience the splendor and diversity of the cypress-tupelo swamp first-hand from the 500-foot boardwalk, or paddle your way amidst towering trees on the 1-mile canoe trail.

Habitats at 1,590-acre Woods Bay also include marsh, sand hills, oak-hickory forest and a shrub bog. More than 75 species of mammals, reptiles and amphibians are found here, along with more than 150 species of birds, changing with the seasons.

Come see alligators from the boardwalk and hear the “cu-tuck, cu-tuck, cu-tuck” of carpenter frogs as their calls echo through the trees. Take a hike on the nature trail as it encircles the historic mill pond and imagine yourself back in the mid-19th century when water from the bay powered two wooden grist mills.

Visitors also enjoy fishing, wildlife-viewing, photography and picnicking at the park.



Counties: Florence, Sumter and Clarendon counties

Acreage: 1590

Pets: Pets are allowed in most outdoor areas provided they are kept under physical restraint or on a leash not longer than six feet.

Admissions: Free

Significant Natural Features: Located throughout the Atlantic coastal plain, most Carolina Bays are found in South Carolina, North Carolina and Georgia.

The bays themselves are elliptical depressions of unknown origin. Oriented in a northwest-southeast direction, Carolina Bays range in size from less than an acre to several thousand acres or more.

A sand rim is characteristically associated with these features and is most visible along the southeastern edge.

Driving Directions: From I-95: Take exit 141 onto Hwy 53/58

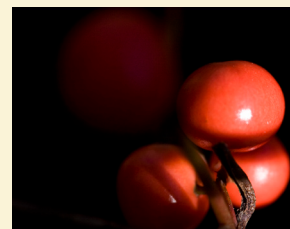
Eastbound. Go S. on Hwy 58 toward Shiloh. Turn E. onto Woods Bay Rd. (Hwy 48). Travel approximately 4½ miles the park will be on the right.

From Myrtle Beach & Conway: Take U.S. Hwy 378 West. After Lake City, exit right onto SC Hwy 341 North. Continue on 341 North through Olanta. Drive approximately 2 miles and then turn left onto Norwood Road (SC-S-43-150). At the stop sign turn right onto Woods Bay Road (Hwy 48), the park entrance will be on the left.

GPS Coordinates: Long: 79° 58' 33.38"W , Lat: 33° 56' 58.36"N

Park Facilities and Activities:

- Canoeing: Rentals available
- Fishing
- Hiking
- Nature Trails
- Paddling
- Picnic Area/Picnic Shelter



11020 Woods Bay RD

Olanta, SC 29114

Phone: (843) 659-4445

Park Hours: 9am-6pm daily